

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A method and composition for treating irritable bowel syndrome in a subject in need of such treatment, utilizing an amount of a polyamine having the formula:

- 1) $R-NH-(CH_2)_a-NH-(CH_2)_b-NH_2$,
- 2) $CF_3-C_6H_5-(CH_2)_a-NH-(CH_2)_b-NH-(CH_2)_c-NH-(CH_2)_d-NH-(CH_2)_e-C_6H_5-CF_3$,
- 3) $R-NH-(CH_2)_a-NH-C_6H_5-NH-(CH_2)_b-NH-R$ and
- 4) $PIP-(CH_2)_a-NH-(CH_2)_b-NH-(CH_2)_c-PIP$,

wherein:

R is alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkaryl, or cyclo-alkyl having up to about 10 carbon atoms, and any of the alkyl chains may optionally be interrupted by at least one etheric oxygen atom,

PIP is piperidine and

a, b, c, d, and e may be the same or different and are integers from 1-10 effective to treat irritable bowel syndrome.